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**Operational activities of the United Nations for international development cooperation: reports of the Executive Boards of the United Nations Development Programme/United Nations Population Fund, the United Nations Children's Fund and the World Food Programme**

## Extract from the report of the Executive Board of the United Nations Children's Fund on its 2007 annual session (4-8 June 2007)

### Decisions adopted by the Executive Board at its annual session of 2007

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**2007/6. Annual report of the Executive Director**

*The Executive Board,*

1. *Takes note* of the "Annual report of the Executive Director: progress and achievements against the medium-term strategic plan" (MTSP) (E/ICEF/2007/9);

2. *Recognizes* that this is the first report on the MTSP 2006-2009;

3. *Welcomes* the progress that UNICEF has made to improve its strategic focus, the strong alignment of its activities with the MTSP and the recognition of the importance of results-based management;

4. *Welcomes* the progress made in countries supported by UNICEF in the five focus areas of the MTSP, but also recognizes that many countries, particularly countries in Africa, still face challenges in these areas, and in this regard urges UNICEF to continue to strengthen its support to these countries, with a view to tackling the remaining challenges;

5. *Appreciates* that the annual report gives an overview of the outcomes and results of the activities undertaken in the five focus areas of the UNICEF MTSP and of the linkages between results and resources, and further takes note of the accompanying data companion that defines key trends;

6. *Underlines* the importance of the annual report as a key part of the accountability framework to the Executive Board, particularly in reporting on results and outcomes in the implementation of the MTSP, while recognizing that the annual report should be complemented by analytical reports to the Board from the evaluation function on the contribution of UNICEF to development outcomes at the country level as well as on the aggregate level;

7. *Encourages* UNICEF to further institutionalize strengthening of data gathering to track progress against all MTSP results and indicators;

8. *Requests* UNICEF to include in the next annual report key challenges on the programmatic, organizational and financial level under each focus area, and to include a section reporting on specific results and resources related to major global partnerships, as well as an annually updated data companion.

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**2007/7. The organizational review of UNICEF**

*The Executive Board,*

1. *Takes note* of the UNICEF initiative in undertaking an organizational review to continue to improve the strategic impact of UNICEF;

2. *Requests* the Executive Director to submit for consideration and decision by the Executive Board the changes proposed to be made through the organizational review; and in this regard requests the Executive Director to submit at the second regular session of the Executive Board in September 2007 a report that includes:

(a) details of the proposed organizational review, including the impact on the UNICEF presence in the field at the country and regional levels and the timeframes envisaged for the implementation of the proposed changes;

(b) the rationale for each of the proposed changes;

(c) a clear explanation of the implications on the biennial support budget for 2008-2009 of the implementation of changes as a result of the review;

(d) a summary of the areas where proposed reforms are still being considered.

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**2007/8. The UNICEF education strategy in support of the medium-term strategic plan**

*The Executive Board*

1. *Reaffirms* the medium-term strategic plan for 2006-2009 (MTSP) as the guiding framework for all areas of UNICEF programming;

2. *Welcomes* the 'UNICEF education strategy' (E/ICEF/2007/10) as the support document for programmes in support of education, and in implementation of the MTSP and its cross-cutting strategies, as well as for achieving the Millennium Development Goals;

3. *Requests* the Executive Director to ensure that UNICEF increases its efforts to further develop national capacities to improve outcomes as outlined in this support strategy for the MTSP;

4. *Requests* the Executive Director to apply the UNICEF education strategy in the priority countries defined according to the strategy, while ensuring at the same time cooperation in the education field with other countries in support of their national plans and policies;

5. *Requests* the Executive Director to ensure that comments on the UNICEF education strategy by members of the Executive Board at its annual session of 2007 are taken into consideration when implementing programmes of support in the area of education;

6. *Takes note* of the indicators established in the UNICEF education strategy, and requests the Executive Director to ensure consistency and clear links between these indicators and those approved in the MTSP for the education focus area, and that future reports fully track all indicators, where possible.

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**2007/9. The Ending Child Hunger and Undernutrition Initiative**

*The Executive Board,*

*Having considered* the document E/ICEF/2007/11 and decision 2007/EB.1/3 of the Executive Board of the World Food Programme (WFP);

1. *Approves* the participation of UNICEF in the Ending Child Hunger and Undernutrition Initiative (ECHUI), including its work plan and secretariat as described in E/ICEF/2007/11;

2. *Urges* the Executive Director to ensure that the medium-term strategic plan (MTSP), including its cross-cutting strategies and support strategies, is the guiding strategic and financial framework for all of UNICEF partnerships, including ECHUI;

3. *Takes note of* the report of the Executive Director and in this regard, approves the allocation of up to $1 million of resources to fund the joint secretariat for this Initiative from core resources in the absence of other resources to fund the secretariat.

4. *Requests* the Executive Director to submit at the annual session of the Executive Board in June 2008 a report on the implementation of the Initiative including among others a description of:

(a) the Initiative's implications on the allocation by UNICEF of financial and human resources at global and country level;

as well as, in consultation with WFP and other partners,

(b) the involvement and ownership of national Governments in the implementation of the Initiative;

(c) an overview of the resources mobilized for the implementation of the Initiative;

(d) the linkages between the implementation of the Initiative and the Common Country Assessment, United Nations Development Assistance Framework and poverty reduction strategy processes;

(e) the results of this Initiative, including the work of the secretariat.

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**2007/10. Country programme documents**

*The Executive Board*

*Approves* the aggregate indicative budgets for the following country programmes of cooperation:

| *Region/country* | *Period* | *Regular resources* | *Other resources* | *Document E/ICEF/2007/* |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| **Eastern and Southern Africa** | | | | |
| Comoros | 2008-2012 | 3 715 000 | 6 250 000 | P/L.2 |
| Malawi | 2008-2011 | 30 144 000 | 94 032 000 | P/L.3 |
| Burundi | 2008 | 6 973 000 | 7 930 000 | P/L.4 |
| **West and Central Africa** | | | | |
| Cameroon | 2008-2012 | 17 660 000 | 35 000 000 | P/L.5 |
| Guinea-Bissau | 2008-2012 | 8 225 000 | 18 000 000 | P/L.7 |
| Mali | 2008-2012 | 59 840 000 | 66 647 000 | P/L.8 |
| Sierra Leone | 2008-2010 | 19 473 000 | 36 000 000 | P/L.9 |
| Côte d'Ivoire | 2008 | 4 903 000 | 15 000 000 | P/L.10 |
| Niger | 2008 | 14 354 000 | 15 000 000 | P/L.11 |
| Nigeria | 2008 | 29 303 000 | 49 000 000 | P/L.12 |
| **Latin America and the Caribbean** | | | | |
| Bolivia | 2008-2012 | 6 470 000 | 66 000 000 | P/L.13 |
| Cuba | 2008-2012 | 3 160 000 | 6 000 000 | P/L.14 |

| | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Eastern Caribbean multi-country programme, Suriname, Trinidad and Tobago | 2008-2011 | 12 800 000 | | 20 000 000 | | P/L.15 |
| **East Asia and the Pacific** | | | | | | |
| Malaysia | 2008-2010 | 1 500 000 | | 4 500 000 | | P/L.16 |
| Papua New Guinea | 2008-2012 | 7 150 000 | | 45 000 000 | | P/L.17 |
| Timor-Leste | 2008 | 1 125 000 | | 10 000 000 | | P/L.18 |
| **South Asia** | | | | | | |
| Bhutan | 2008-2012 | 4 830 000 | | 15 000 000 | | P/L.19 |
| India | 2008-2012 | 162 900 000 | | 350 000 000 | | P/L.20 |
| Maldives | 2008-2010 | 2 202 000 | | 3 000 000 | | P/L.21 |
| Sri Lanka | 2008-2012 | 4 000 000 | | 35 000 000 | | P/L.22 |
| **Middle East and North Africa** | | | | | | |
| Djibouti | 2008-2012 | 3 950 000 | | 9 000 000 | | P/L.23 |
| Jordan | 2008-2012 | 3 335 000 | | 6 000 000 | | P/L.24 |
| Palestinian children and woman in Jordan, Lebanon, the Syrian Arab Republic and the Occupied Palestinian Territory | 2008-2009 | 8 000 000 | | 24 900 000 | | P/L.25 |
| Lebanon | 2008 | 616 000 | | 5 000 000 | | P/L.26 |
| Sudan | 2008 | 7 649 000 | | 70 000 000 | | P/L.27 |

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**2007/11. Recommendation for additional other resources for approved country programmes**

*The Executive Board*

*Approves* the other resources ceilings for the approved country programmes for the 36 countries listed in table 1 and the intercountry programmes listed in table 2 of document E/ICEF/2007/P/L.28 for the remaining periods of these programmes, subject to the availability of other resources contributions.

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